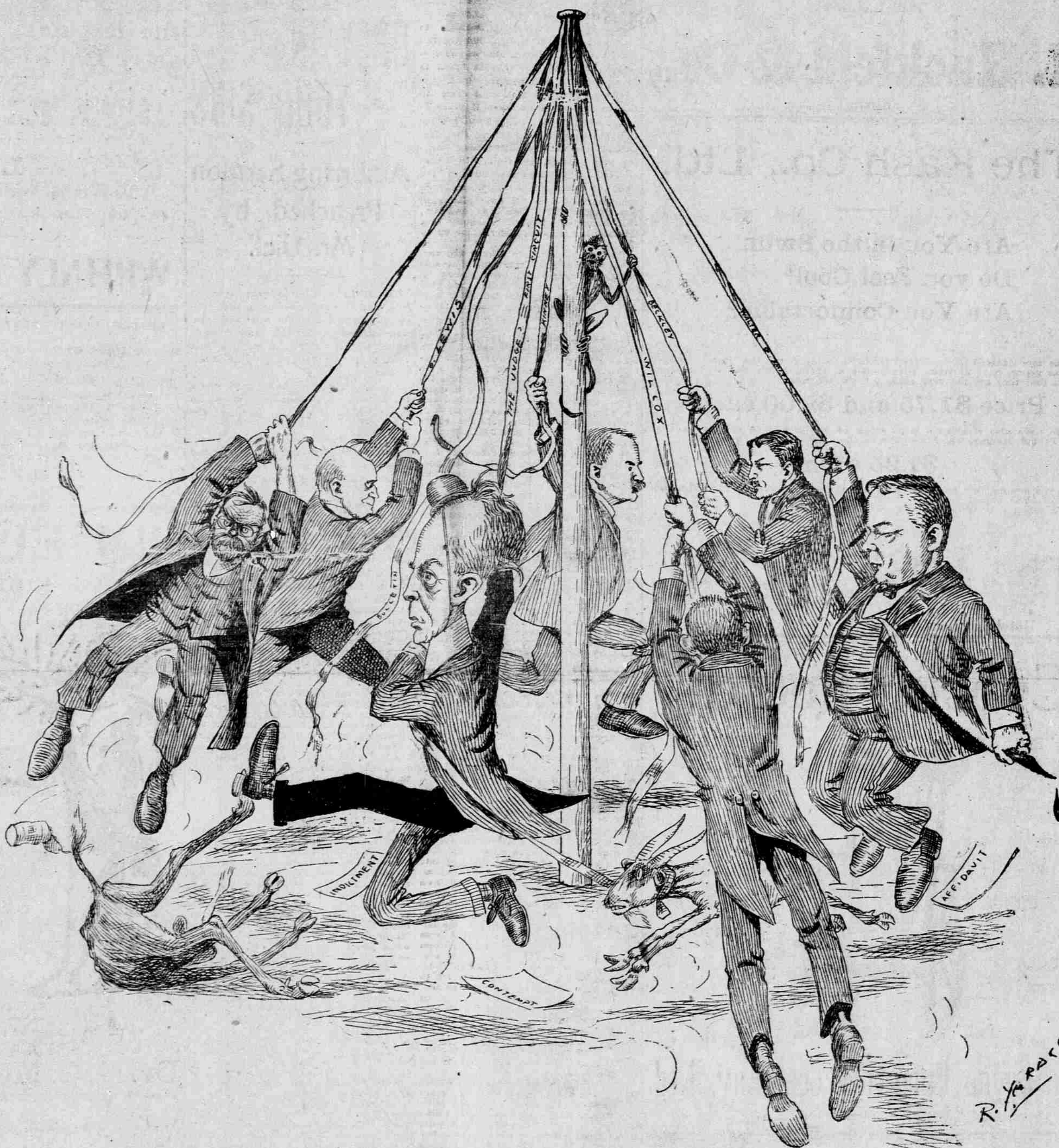


WHAT A MERRY MONTH OF MAY WE HAD.



PRESIDENT M'KINLEY'S VISIT TO SAN FRANCISCO

SAN FRANCISCO, May 22.—Four miles of children in quadruple row is what the President saw yesterday morning, and when he said it was the finest thing he had seen since leaving his home in Washington, he undoubtedly felt that for once, at least, he could express his opinion without mental reservation or secret evasion.

It was a living flower garden, an animated bouquet, that waved and seemed to fold and unfold as if with the passing breeze. It was also a bouquet with a voice, and the voice was as much in evidence as the color tones. It was a living wall of blossom and bud composed of 45,000 bits of humanity, each eager to see the President, but not only to see the President, but to have the President see it. Many of the little tots were scarcely old enough and big enough to realize that the President of the United States was passing, or what his passing meant, but there were thousands upon thousands who fully understood and appreciated the opportunity given them to have a personal view of the man whom they all admire and honor.

All the information given out from the temporary residence of President McKin-

ley yesterday was of a most favorable nature. Mrs. McKinley's condition was such that her physicians felt that all probability of a relapse was past, and further bulletins regarding the progress of her convalescence were deemed unnecessary. It was announced at noon that Mrs. McKinley was taking interest in matters going on about the city, and asked the President many questions regarding his movements and what he had seen. She was especially interested in the review of the children. The improvement was so great that the President felt that he could take much more time from the house than heretofore, consequently he went for a long drive through the park immediately after returning from the review of the children.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 23.—At noon yesterday the commanderies of Knights Templar of San Francisco, Oakland and Sacramento were called from labor to refreshment, for the purpose of tendering a reception to Sir Knight William McKinley of Canton Commandery, Ohio. Masons of all degrees made it a gala day, and were joined in homage to their distinguished frater by an enormous gathering of citizens. With the order and beauty that characterize Masonic ceremonials the procession of knights, mounted and unmounted, and the re-

ception at the Mechanics' Pavilion made a memorable scene.

It seemed like a return to mediaeval days, and the plain dignity of the President of the United States seemed lost amid the pomp and circumstance of the Order of the Temple. But it took only a few words to show that there was nothing of regal pomp in his conception of the Government which was honored through his head yesterday. The Americanism of his speech was strong and timely.

Mrs. McKinley's steady improvement has made it possible for the ladies of the Presidential party to accept some social attentions, and one of the pleasantest took place yesterday afternoon, when the Century Club entertained in their honor. The affair was happy in every particular. The cheerful green assembly hall and the club house proper had a decoration of spring flowers, and during the hours of the reception from 4 to 6 o'clock delicious light refreshments were served.

"Thank God, in the United States there are no classes, and the poor boy, no matter what his environment, may rise to the most exalted station."

President McKinley closed his address delivered before the members of the First Regiment, League of the Cross Cadets, and 5,000 of their friends at Mechanics' Pavilion last night with this earnest expression. It was an occasion calculated to bring from his lips words of strong commendation, for he remembered that this same regiment was the first to offer its services to the Governor of California when the news came that unavoidable war was on with Spain.

BECKLEY IS BACK WITH A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

AMONG the casuals on the United States transport Lawton, bound for this port, was Representative Beckley, who was sent by the Home Rule faction of the Legislature to interview President McKinley during the stay of the latter in San Francisco. Immediately upon his arrival in Honolulu the Home Rule delegate went to the residence of his mother, Mrs. Nakulua, in Palama, and remained there the entire day.

During the whole of yesterday his political associates were busy going and coming. What the fruits of Beckley's visit are, no one knows, not even his closest friends, for the statesman from Maui is as dumb as the traditional clam. When asked regarding his trip, Representative Beckley said:

"Personally, I can say that I had a most enjoyable time. The occasion was

one long to be remembered. The people of the Golden Gate gave the President a royal welcome. The illness of Mrs. McKinley, while an unfortunate incident, only served to show how strong a hold the Chief Executive had upon the hearts of the people.

"As to the political results of my visit, I prefer not to speak at this time. I will say this, however. The President gave me a letter which I am to read to the members of the Legislature. This letter will doubtless be read on Monday morning.

"The President sends a hearty Aloha to the people of Hawaii, and will, he says, visit them before the expiration of his present term. My coming back on the Lawton has created some surprise. It was McKinley's wish, however, that I return to Hawaii at the earliest possible moment, and it was as his guest that I took transportation on the Government vessel."

Disaster on the Lakes.
EAST TAWAS, Mich., May 24.—The wooden steamer Baltimore foundered this morning in Lake Huron, near Au Sable, and twelve of her crew of fourteen were drowned. Two men were washed about in the lake for several

hours, lashed to pieces of wreckage, and were finally picked up by the tug Columbia and brought in here. Geo. McGinnis, a deckhand, one of the rescued, went crazy from his experience. The other survivor, Thomas Murphy, of Milwaukee, second engineer, was able to tell the story of the disaster.